

East Washington Fluff

Boundaries:

The site is bounded approximately by Buckeye Road to the north, 5th Street to the east, Pima Street to the south and a set of railroad tracks to the west.

Site History:

- In 1997, SCS Engineers conducted site characterization activities for ADEQ. Results indicated soil concentrations of cadmium, chromium, lead, and polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) in fluff waste at concentrations greater than ADEQ and EPA health-based guidance levels and groundwater protection standards. ADEQ installed a twelve-foot fence around the perimeter of the site and posted warning signs.
- The site was added to the WQARF Registry on June 16, 1999 with a score of 22 out of a possible 120.
- EPA conducted a Targeted Site Assessment (TSA) in March of 2000. EPA installed and sampled three groundwater monitoring wells as part of the TSA. The wells were analyzed for total and dissolved cadmium, total and dissolved lead, total and dissolved chromium, PCBs, and volatile organic compounds. The TSA indicated that the concentrations of PCBs, lead, cadmium, and arsenic in soil remain above the health-based action levels.
- In April 2000, ADEQ constructed a new fence around the property boundary.
- In December of 2000, the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) prepared a health consultation report. The health consultation report was prepared in response to a request from the City of Phoenix (COP). COP requested that the ATSDR evaluate the environmental conditions and determine whether a public health hazard exists as a result of exposure to the contaminated soils at the site. The health consultation concluded:
 - < A public health hazard may exist when the site fence is breached and direct contact with surficial materials and/or fluff piles, which contain PCBs, occurs.
 - < Off-site exposure to contaminants in blowing dust originating from the site presents no apparent public health hazards.
- In April 2001, in response to the health consultation, ADEQ began an early response action (ERA). The objective of the ERA was to construct a temporary engineered barrier to eliminate the direct exposure pathway between the contaminated media and the human population.
- In September 2001, the ERA was completed. Approximately 5,907 tons of hazardous waste was removed from the site. A total of 819 tons of solid waste was also removed from the site. A protective soil cap was then installed at the site to prevent exposure to any remaining contamination in the soil.

- In October 2001, ADEQ began a remedial investigation (RI).
- In January 2002, a geoprobe was used to install 75 soil boring locations. The geoprobe investigation determined that additional deeper subsurface drilling was required. ADEQ installed an additional five locations using an AP1000 percussion hammer drilling rig. The vertical and lateral extent of lead, cadmium, and PCBs in the soils were defined. The highest remaining concentrations in soil of lead, cadmium, and arsenic are 11,000 milligrams per kilogram (mg/kg), 200 mg/kg, and 35 mg/kg, respectively. The non-residential soil remediation level (SRL) for lead, cadmium, and arsenic, are 2000 mg/kg, 850 mg/kg, and 10 mg/kg, respectively. The highest remaining concentration of PCBs in soil is 173 mg/kg and the non-residential SRL is 13 mg/kg. The soil samples were analyzed using EPA Method 6010B for metals and EPA Method 8082 for PCBs.
- Selected samples were also analyzed for the Toxicity Characteristic Leaching Procedure (TCLP). TCLP analyses revealed that the highest remaining concentration of lead was 73 mg/l, which is above the RCRA limit of 5 mg/l. Selected samples were also analyzed for volatile organic compounds using EPA Method 8260, poly-aromatic hydrocarbons using EPA method 8310, pesticides using EPA Method 8081, total petroleum hydrocarbons (TPH) using Method 8015AZR1, and asbestos in accordance with EPA 600/R-93/116. No other analytes were detected above the non-residential soil remediation level (SRL) for the analyses stated above. In addition, asbestos was not detected in the samples analyzed.

Site Status:

- The draft Remedial Investigation (RI) Report has been completed. On July 16, 2003, the public comment period for the draft RI Report was announced. Notices were published in the *Arizona Republic* and *La Prensa Hispana*. The public comment period ended on October 17, 2003.
- The final RI Report is currently being prepared.
- A feasibility study workplan has been prepared.

Site Hydrogeology:

- The wells at the site are currently dry. The total depth of the deepest well is approximately 86 feet bgs. Four rounds of groundwater monitoring and sampling were completed prior to the wells being dry. The depth to water beneath the site ranged from 76 to 86 feet bgs during the period from July 2000 to April 2001. Groundwater during this period flowed in a west/northwest direction at a gradient of .007 ft/ft.

Contaminants:

The site is ten acres in size and contains significant quantities of auto shredder fluff co-mingled with native soils. The current contaminants of concern (COCs) at the include: lead, cadmium, arsenic and PCBs, a substance historically used as a cooling oil in electric components. The COCs are present in the soil only. No COCs have been detected in the groundwater above the

aquifer water quality standards (AWQS). Contaminants of concern at the site may change as new data become available.

Public Health Impact:

All surface piles of auto shredder fluff, including the main fluff pile, have been removed from the site. A protective soil cap was installed at the site to prevent exposure to any contamination in the soil. The Arizona Department of Health Services (ADHS) has concluded that the soil cap will prevent future direct contact with the contaminants present in on-site soils and wastes at the site and that the cap should be protective of human health until a final remedy for the site is selected.

Community Involvement Activities:

A community advisory board (CAB) was formed for this site and meets on a regular basis. These meetings are open to the public. The CAB meeting agendas and minutes can be viewed at <http://www.adeq.az.us/envIRON/waste/sps/reg.html>.

Information Repository:

Interested parties can review site information at the information repository at the Harmon Public Library located at 411 West Yavapai Street in Phoenix, (602) 262-6362. Site information is also available at the ADEQ main office located at 1110 West Washington Street, Phoenix. Site information is available for review Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. To arrange for a time to review the public site file, please call the ADEQ Records Center (602) 771-4378 or (800) 234-5677 (Arizona toll free).

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